



Fort Frederick State Park Complex 2026 Calendar of Events



Fort Frederick State Park - Sideling Hill Creek State Park - Western Maryland Rail Trail - Woodmont NRMA

April

23rd - 26th - 18th Century Market Fair
9am - 5pm Thurs - Sat, 9am - 3pm Sunday

Step into the 1700s at Fort Frederick State Park's annual Market Fair! This event, sponsored by the Friends of Fort Frederick State Park, features artisans, craftspeople, and sutlers from across the country. Guests may explore the 18th century encampment in modern clothes or in period-specific attire.

Admission Rates: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children aged 6 to 12, and children 5 and under are free.



May

9th - Youth Fishing Derby
8am - 12pm

Come join us for a morning of fishing on the Beaver Pond. Open to kids aged 3-15 and must be accompanied by an adult. Please bring your own rod, tackle, and bait. Limited loaner rods and tackle available on site. Parking is at the Big Pool boat ramp and canal access lot. Prizes will be available to qualified fishers, as well as a grab bag of assorted lures for all participants.

23rd - 24th - "Sacred To the Memory Of..."
10am - 5pm

Immerse yourself in the Civil War history of Fort Frederick and learn about how the Memorial Day holiday began as a Civil War tradition. Highlights include weapon demonstrations, cooking demonstrations, & an oral history of the holiday.

June

6th - Western Maryland Railroad History
8am - 12pm

Join a ranger for National Trails Day to learn about the history of the railroad. Artifacts, photos, and memorabilia will be on display at our tent near the Church St. Rail Trail parking lot in Hancock, next to the bike trail.

13th - "Maryland's Noble Train Of Artillery"
10am - 5pm

Experience military life during the American Revolution with the men and women of the Maryland Provincial Companies of Foot. Highlights of the event include cannon firing demonstrations, musket firing presentations, hearth cooking, & military and children's drill.



20th - Woodmont Lodge Tour
11am - 1pm

Explore a well-kept secret of hunting and conservation history located in the woods of the Woodmont Natural Resources Management Area. 15 visitors will have the opportunity to tour Woodmont Lodge and see beautiful artifacts from the early days of the Woodmont Rod and Gun Club. Guests will need to wear shoe covers in the Lodge and use special flashlights to maintain the integrity of the building and artifacts.

Pre-registration is required for this event and can be completed by contacting Fort Frederick State Park at fortfrederick.statepark@maryland.gov or by calling the office at 301-842-2155.

July

4th & 5th - "...and zeal for liberty..."
10am - 5pm

It's Independence Day! This year the United States of America turns 250 years old! Join our interpretive staff and volunteers as they portray the men and women of the American Revolution and learn about the role the fort played during the war. This program includes musket firing demonstrations as well as military and children's drill.

11th - Woodmont Lodge Tour
11am - 1pm

Explore a well-kept secret of hunting and conservation history located in the woods of the Woodmont Natural Resources Management Area. 15 visitors will have the opportunity to tour Woodmont Lodge and see beautiful artifacts from the early days of the Woodmont Rod and Gun Club. Guests will need to wear shoe covers while in the Lodge and use special flashlights to maintain the integrity of the building and artifacts.

Pre-registration is required for this event and can be completed by contacting Fort Frederick State Park at fortfrederick.statepark@maryland.gov or by calling the office at 301-842-2155.

18th - The French in North America 1752-1763
10am - 5pm

To commemorate French-American Heritage Month, join park staff and volunteers for a living history program about French military forces in America from 1752 to 1763! Highlights include: musket firing demonstrations, cooking demonstrations, military and children's drill.



11100 Fort Frederick Road, Big Pool, MD 21711

Visitor Center: 301-842-2155

Duty Ranger: 443-805-1759

August

8th - "For the defence of this province..."
10am - 5pm

Experience military life during the French and Indian War with the men and women of the Maryland Provincial Companies of Foot. Highlights of the event include cannon firing demonstrations, musket firing presentations, hearth cooking, & military and children's drill.

8th - Woodmont Lodge Tour
11am - 1pm

Explore a well-kept secret of hunting and conservation history located in the woods of the Woodmont Natural Resources Management Area. 15 visitors will have the opportunity to tour Woodmont Lodge and see beautiful artifacts from the early days of the Woodmont Rod and Gun Club. Guests will need to wear shoe covers while in the Lodge and use flashlights to maintain the integrity of the building and artifacts.

Pre-registration is required for this event and can be completed by contacting Fort Frederick State Park at fortfrederick.statepark@maryland.gov or by calling the office at 301-842-2155.

15th - Perseids Meteor Shower Star Party
8:30pm - 11pm

Join Maryland State Park Rangers and the Tri-State Astronomers at Fort Frederick for a night under the stars! Volunteers from the Tri-State Astronomers will provide a variety of demonstrations that highlight various celestial features and will answer questions about them, their organization, and equipment. Visitors may also get a chance to view meteors from the Perseid Meteor Shower. Please try to bring a red-light flashlight instead of a regular white-light flashlight as white-light will hamper your and other visitors' ability to view the night sky. Parking is at the fort parking lot.

22nd - "What brave fellows I must this day lose": Maryland and the Battle of Brooklyn
10am - 5pm

To commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Brooklyn and Maryland's pivotal role in the battle, park staff and volunteers will host military living history programs focused on Smallwood's Brigade and the saving of the American army. A tabletop war game of the battle will take place during the event.

September

13th - Open House
11am - 3pm

Showcasing the picturesque and historic Woodmont Lodge, the annual Open House invites you to explore memories of the early days of conservation in Maryland. Visitors will have the opportunity to speak with members of the Maryland



Department of Natural Resources and the Izaak Walton League about the history and importance of the Lodge. The Open House will be held at 11761 Woodmont Rd, Hancock, MD 21750. Directional signs for the event will be placed on Woodmont Road.

19th & 20th - French & Indian War Muster
Saturday: 9am - 4pm, Sunday: 9am - 3pm

French, British, and American Indian reenactors assemble! Join us for two days of 18th century living history demonstrations and battle reenactments. Period crafts and a food vendor will also be available.

October

17th - SP#1: The Civilian Conservation Corps
10am - 5pm

Join Park staff and volunteers as they demonstrate life at Fort Frederick in the 1930's for the "boy's" of the Civilian Conservation Corps. Learn about the role the CCC played in the creation of today's park.

November

7th & 8th - "Fitted Out For The Expedition" Trappings of the American Soldier 1753 - 1953
10am - 5pm

Come to the Visitor Center and see displays of the basic arms and soldiers' equipment used in American conflicts from the French and Indian War to the Korean War.

December

12th - Geminids Meteor Shower Star Party
5pm - 10pm

Join Maryland State Park Rangers and the Tri-State Astronomers at Fort Frederick for a night under the stars! Volunteers from the Tri-State Astronomers will provide a variety of demonstrations that highlight various celestial features and will answer questions about them, their organization, and equipment. Visitors may also get a chance to view meteors from the Geminids Meteor Shower as it nears its peak. Please try to bring a red-light flashlight instead of a regular white-light flashlight as white-light will hamper your and other visitors' ability to view the night sky. Parking is at the fort parking lot.



MD TWO FIFTY

11100 Fort Frederick Road, Big Pool, MD 21711

Visitor Center: 301-842-2155

Duty Ranger: 443-805-1759